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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
Makoto Yoshida et al.
Application No.: 09/899,297
Filed: July 6, 2001
For: THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD OF
THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD



) MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
) Group Art Unit: 2653
) Examiner: Christopher R. Magee
) Confirmation No.: 7675
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 19, 2005

Sir:

This election is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 20, 2004 (Paper No. 20041213). In the Office Action, the Examiner identified two distinct inventions. The Examiner required the Applicants, under 35 U.S.C. §121, to elect a single invention for prosecution. The two inventions identified by the Examiner are:

- I) Claims 1-14, drawn to a thin film magnetic head,
- II) Claims 15-48, drawn to a manufacturing method of a thin film magnetic head.

Pursuant to the Examiner's requirement, the Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-14. It is understood that claims 15-48 will be withdrawn from prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications.

An earlier examination and favorable action on claims 1-14 are respectfully requested.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment for any additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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